

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 561  
By Wood

A RESOLUTION to designate May 1996 as "Better Speech and Hearing Month" in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is the goal of those Tennesseans who treasure the rich heritage of this state - which is known for the sounds of its musicians that reach out across the land, of its cascading streams and bountiful wildlife that resound from its natural areas, and the laughter of its children ringing out from the schools and playgrounds - that not one Tennessean be deprived of the opportunity to share and that none should dwell in silence; and

WHEREAS, over 42 million people in this country have hearing, speech and language impairments, and hearing loss is no respecter of age with one in every four elderly affected, and two in every one hundred children affected; the more than three million cases of speech impairment reported each year cost over thirty billion dollars each year in loss of work and costs of service; and

WHEREAS, the increasing exposure to the intrusive sounds of our highly technical and mobile society will only add to the number of those deprived of the privilege of communication and the fullness of the quality of life enjoyed by all Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, by means of the skills of dedicated workers using newly developed technology, surgical procedures, and rehabilitation there is now hope for those affected; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That the General Assembly does hereby designate the month of May, 1996, as "Better Speech and Hearing Month" in Tennessee and join with the Moffatt Brothers, who lend their musical talents and youthful voices to serve as spokespersons and chairmen for our efforts in Tennessee to enable and enhance the communicative abilities of all Tennesseans that not one person should dwell in silence.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

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